

Claim 4, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 3" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 4" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--;
line 4, delete "advantageously equal to 5, preferably equal to 6,"; and
delete "the";
lines 5-6, delete "advantageously not more than 13, preferably not more
than 12 and even more preferably not more than 10,".

Claim 6, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 5" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--;
line 3, delete "advantageously not more than 11, preferably not more
than 10,".

Claim 7, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 6" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--;
lines 3-4, delete "advantageously at least equal to the value (pKa-1),
preferably at least equal to the pKa value".

Claim 8, line 8, delete "Claims 1 to 7" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 9, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 8" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--;
line 3, delete ", including a" and insert --or--; delete "of solvents" and
insert --thereof--.

Claim 10, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 9" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--;
lines 3-4, delete "advantageously 95% by mass,".

Claim 11, line 1, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 12, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 11" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 13, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 12" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 14, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 13" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 15, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 14" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 16, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1 to 15" and insert --Claim 1--; delete "this" and insert --said--;

line 2, delete "containing the steps consisting in" and insert --comprising--;

lines 4-5, delete "preferably greater than 20,000s⁻¹ and less than 1,000,000 s⁻¹, preferably less than 200,000 s⁻¹,";

lines 8-9, delete "preferably 0.2 μm , and less than 5 μm , preferably less than 2 μm ,".

Claim 17, line 1, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 18, line 1, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 19, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 16 to 18" and insert --Claim 16--;

line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 20, line 1, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--;

lines 4-5, delete "preferably less than 10,000s⁻¹,".

Claim 21, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 1 to 20" and insert --Claim 1--;
line 2, delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--;
lines 2-3, delete ", preferably less than 40°C".

Claim 22, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 1 to 21" and insert --Claim 1--;
line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--;
lines 3-4, delete "preferably less than 10% by weight,".

Claim 23, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 22" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 24, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 23" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--.

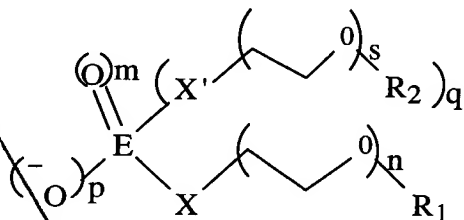
Claim 25, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 24" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--;
line 4, delete ", advantageously at least 5, preferably at least 7,".

Claim 26, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 25" and insert --Claim 1--;
lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--; and
delete "the";
line 3, delete "the".

Claim 27, line 1, delete "Claims 1 to 26" and insert --Claim 1--;

lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--; delete "is chosen from" and insert --comprises--; and change "and" to --or--.

28. (Amended) Process according to [Claims 1 to 27] Claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the surfactant is an anionic surfactant, the anionic part corresponding to the following formula:



where q represents zero or 1;

where p represents an integer between 1 and 2 [(closed intervals, i.e.] including the limits [)];

where m represents zero or an integer between 1 and 2 [(closed intervals, i.e.] including the limits [)];

where X and X', which may be similar or different, represent an arm containing not more than two carbon-based chain members;

where s is zero or an integer chosen between 1 and 30, [advantageously between 5 and 25, preferably between 9 and 20 (closed intervals, i.e.) including the limits [)];

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cont. } where n is zero or an integer chosen between 1 and 30, [advantageously between 5 and 25, preferably between 9 and 20 (closed intervals, i.e.) including the limits [)];

~~A~~ where E is an element chosen from carbon and the metalloid elements of atomic rank at least equal to that of phosphorus and belonging to column VB or to the chalcogens of atomic rank at least equal to that of sulphur;

[004900-174] where R₁ and R₂, which may be similar or different, represent a hydrocarbon-based radical [advantageously chosen from optionally] comprising substituted aryls [and] or alkyls.

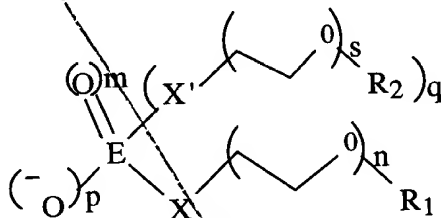
29. (Amended) [Use of ionic surfactant for an isocyanate blocking in emulsion, characterized in that the said] A method for blocking isocyanate functions on an aromatic compound while allowing aqueous emulsification of the compound obtained, comprising using an effective amount of a surfactant [contains] comprises a compound [containing] comprising an anionic function and [advantageously] optionally a polyethylene glycol and/or polypropylene glycol chain fragment of at least one [, preferably of at least 5,] oxyethylene and/or oxypropylene units.

30. (Amended) [Use] The method according to Claim 29, [characterized in that it contains] comprising a compound containing an anionic function and a polyethylene glycol and/or polypropylene glycol chain fragment of at least 5 [, advantageously of at least 7,] oxyethylene units.

31. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 and 30] Claim 29, [characterized in that the] wherein said compound contains a hydrophilic part formed of [the] said anionic function, [the] said optional polyethylene glycol chain fragment, and a lipophilic part based on a hydrocarbon-based radical.

32. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 31] Claim 29, [characterized in that the] wherein the said lipophilic part [is chosen from] comprises alkyl [and] or aryl groups.

33. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 32] Claim 29, [characterized in that] wherein the anionic part of the surface active compound corresponds to formula I below:



where q represents zero or 1;

where p represents an integer between 1 and 2 [(closed intervals, i.e.] including the limits [)];

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cont.

where m represents zero or an integer between 1 and 2 [(closed intervals, i.e.)
including the limits [)];

where X and X', which may be similar or different, represent an arm containing not
more than two carbon-based chain members;

where s is zero or an integer chosen between 1 and 30, [advantageously between 5
and 25, preferably between 9 and 20 (closed intervals, i.e.) including the limits [)];

where n is zero or an integer chosen between 1 and 30, [advantageously between 5
and 25, preferably between 9 and 20 (closed intervals, i.e.) including the limits [)];

where E is an element chosen from carbon and the metalloid elements of atomic
rank at least equal to that of phosphorus and belonging to column VB or to the chalcogens
of atomic rank at least equal to that of sulphur;

where R₁ and R₂, which may be similar or different, represent a hydrocarbon-based
radical [advantageously chosen from] comprising optionally substituted aryls [and] or
alkyls.

34. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 31] Claim 29,
[characterized in that] wherein the counter-cation of the surfactant is an amine [,
advantageously a tertiary amine].

35. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 34] Claim 29,
[characterized in that the] wherein said composition containing an isocyanate function

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cont. } contains, on average, 1 to 5 isocyanate functions per molecule bearing isocyanate function(s).

36. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 35] Claim 29, [characterized in that the] wherein said composition containing an isocyanate function contains, on average, 4/3 to 4 isocyanate functions per molecule bearing isocyanate function(s).

37. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 36] Claim 29, [characterized in that the] wherein said blocking agent contains at least one labile hydrogen.

38. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 37] Claim 29, [characterized in that the] wherein said blocking agent contains at least one labile hydrogen and in that the pKa of the reactive hydrogens is at least equal to 2 [, advantageously equal to 3, preferably equal to 5, and in that the said pKa is not more than 11, advantageously not more than 10, preferably not more than 9].

39. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 38] Claim 29, [characterized in that] wherein the pH of the aqueous phase is maintained at a value of not more than 12, [advantageously not more than 11, preferably not more than 10,] throughout the reaction.

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cont.

40. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 39] Claim 29,
[characterized in that] wherein the pH of the aqueous phase is maintained at a value at least
equal to the value (pKa-2) [, advantageously at least equal to the value (pKa-1), preferably
at least equal to the pKa value] of the blocking agent, or of one of the blocking agents,
throughout the reaction.

41. (Amended) [Use] The method according to [Claims 29 to 40] Claim 29,
[characterized in that] wherein the mass ratio between the surfactant and the isocyanates is
less than 20% and greater than 2% [, advantageously between 4 and 10%].

Claim 42, lines 1-2, delete "any one of Claims 16 to 41" and insert --Claim 16--;
delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--;
lines 3-4, delete " preferably a mill, advantageously a colloidal mill";
line 5, delete ", preferably greater than 20,000 s⁻¹, and less than
1,000,000 s⁻¹, preferably less than 200,000 s⁻¹".

Claim 43, line 1, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 44, line 1, delete "or 43"; delete "characterized in that" and insert
--wherein--;

line 2, change "comprise" to --comprises--.

Claim 45, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 42 to 44" and insert --Claim 42--;

line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 46, line 2, delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--;

lines 4-5, delete "preferably at least 5 oxyethylene and/or oxypropylene units".

Claim 47, line 2, delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--.

Claim 48, line 1, delete "or claim 47";

line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 49, line 1, delete "any one of claims 46 to 48" and insert --Claim 46--;

line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 50, line 1, delete "any one of claims 47 to 49" and insert --Claim 47--;

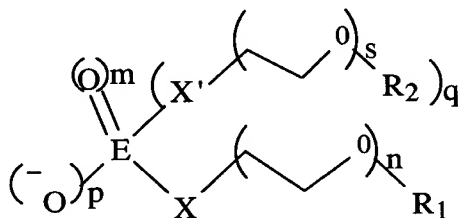
line 2, delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--.

51. (Amended) Composition according to [any one of the preceding claims]

A2 Claim 46, [characterized in that] wherein said surfactant is [as defined in claim 28] an anionic surfactant.

Sub B13 52. (Amended) Composition according to [any one of the preceding claims]

Claim 51, [characterized in that] wherein the surfactant is of the following formula:



where q represents zero or 1;

where p represents an integer between 1 and 2 [(closed intervals, i.e.] including the limits [)];

where m represents zero or an integer between 1 and 2 [(closed intervals, i.e.] including the limits [)];

where X and X', which may be similar or different, represent an arm containing not more than two carbon-based chain members;

where s is zero or an integer selected between 1 and 30, [advantageously between 5 and 25, preferably between 9 and 20 (closed intervals, i.e.) including the limits [)];

where n is zero or an integer selected between 1 and 30, [advantageously between 5 and 25, preferably between 9 and 20 (closed intervals, i.e.) including the limits [)];

where E is an element selected from carbon and the metalloid elements of atomic rank at least equal to that of phosphorus and belonging to column VB or to the chalcogens of atomic rank at least equal to that of sulphur;

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where R₁ and R₂, which may be similar or different, represent a hydrocarbon-based radical [advantageously selected from] comprising optionally substituted aryls [and] or alkyls.

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53. (Amended) Composition according to [any one of claims 46 to 52] Claim 46, [characterized in that it] which has a viscosity of less than 5500 mPa.s at at least 68% solids, at 25°C [, and, advantageously, a viscosity of less than 1000 mPa.s at at least 60% solids, at 25°C].

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54. (Amended) Composition according to [any one of Claims 46 and 53] Claim 46, [characterized in that it] which also contains a release catalyst, which is [advantageously] optionally a latent catalyst.

Claim 55, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 46 to 54" and insert --Claim 46--;
line 2, delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--.

Claim 56, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 46 to 55" and insert --Claim 46--;
line 2, delete "characterized in that the" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 57, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 46 to 56" and insert --Claim 46--;
line 2, delete "characterized in that it" and insert --which--.

Claim 58, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 55 to 57" and insert --Claim 55--;

line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 59, line 1, delete "Claims 55 to 58" and insert --Claim 55--;

line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert --wherein--.

Claim 60, lines 1-2, delete "characterized in that it contains" and insert
--comprising--;

lines 3-4, delete "one of Claims 46 to 59" and insert --Claim 46--.

Claim 61, line 1, delete ", characterized in that it" and insert --which--.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to place them
in better condition for U.S. patent practice.